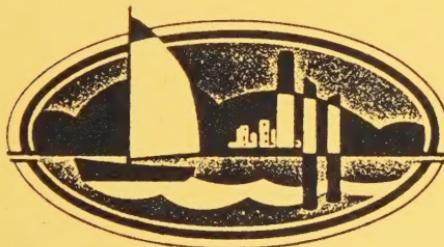


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HISTORICAL SUMMARIZATION  
OF THE  
CITY OF ANTIOCH

INCORPORATED: FEBRUARY 6, 1872



Information Compiled By:

Dorothy P. Marks, cmc

City Clerk

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OF CALIFORNIA

### HISTORY OF CITY'S NAME

#### (1) Meaning of name:

Probably has none. However, it was named after Antioch in Syria, on the Orontes, 30 miles from the sea, 300 miles from Jerusalem. Founded by Seleucus Nicator (conqueror), 300 B.C., and named in honor of his father Antiochus. It was the capital of the Greek and Roman governors of Syria for 1000 years. Its suburb, Daphne, was famous for its sanctuary to Apollo and Diana; the sacred grove extending its cool shades and brooks of water for ten miles around. It was a sensual paradise where pleasure, under the guise of religion, dissolved the firmness of manly virtue. The first Gentile Church was founded here by Paul, and disciples here were first called Christians in derision by the pagans. Ignatius, who suffered martyrdom under Trajan, at Rome, was bishop of Antioch for forty years.

In the time of Chrysostom (born here 344 A.D.), the population was 200,000, half being Christians. The city had a street colonnade from end to end, built by Antiochus Epiphanes, and paved with granite by Antoninus Pius; magnificent marble baths, built by Caligula, Trajan, and Hadrian; a marble palace of Diocletian, and was the finest and largest city of Western Asia. It lost greatly in wealth and population in several earthquakes; one in 526 A.D., destroying 250,000 people, at the time of the festival of the Ascension, when many strangers were gathered; and in 1822 one-fourth of the city and people, about 5,000.

Antioch was of great importance during the Crusades, and is often mentioned for its sieges, battles, and brilliant exploits of both Christian and Moslem in and about its walls. American Protestant missionaries began to preach there in 1856. Ruins of aqueducts, marble pavements, columns, and other evidence of its ancient splendor are often found buried under rubbish. Its port is Scanderia.

#### (2) How, why, and by whom named:

The name of Antioch is one of the few California city names that makes historical sense, and the incident that surrounds the naming of the town occurred on July 4, 1851. A basket picnic was held at the residence of W. W. Smith on what was then called "standing on high ground", being only a short distance removed from the banks of the San Joaquin River.

The absorbing topic of the day was what name to give the new town, which had been called "Smith's Landing" up to then. Between 30 and 40 men, women, and children had gathered. A chairman was chosen and several names were proposed.

One tentatively suggested "Minton" after a steamer then plying the river, in the hope that it would be thus induced to stop at the landing.

Another proposed the name "Paradise", but that was defeated by Deacon Pulsifer, who arose and remarked there were too many claimants to the lands of California, and if the land was lost, it would then have to be known as "Paradise Lost".

W. W. Smith stood up and said that inasmuch as the first settlers here were disciples of Christ and that as one of them had died and was buried on the land, it should be given a Biblical name in his honor. He suggested the name of Antioch after a Syrian town often mentioned in the Bible. It was adopted and the town so christened.

A further historical parallel came about for Antioch with its original namesake. The Syrian town blossomed once as a crossroads of commerce, as did the modern Antioch in the heyday of the river trade. Ancient Antioch is now under the Turkish jurisdiction.

SIGNIFICANT DATES IN ANTIOCH HISTORY

- 1849 Town site acquired from Dr. John Marsh, first medical doctor in California
- 1851 July 4, town named Antioch at a picnic held by the river, "because disciples were first called Christians at Antioch".
- 1853 Shipping wharf built. The principal means of transportation of this period was by water.
- 1853 With three miles of water frontage 40 feet deep, Antioch became the furthest to inland shipping center for ocean going vessels with cargo for Central California.
- 1864 Lumber company established at 2nd and 'E' Streets. Now Antioch Lumber Co., the oldest business continuously operating in Contra Costa County.
- 1870 Publication begun of weekly newspaper, Antioch Ledger. Has published continuously since Town of Antioch was incorporated.
- 1871 Fire, fanned by a north wind, burned three city blocks of downtown Antioch to the ground in forty minutes.
- 1878 Railroad (now Southern Pacific) built through Antioch.
- 1889 First paper mill built. Paper production was for many years the leading industry of Antioch. (Fibreboard, Crown Zellerbach).
- 1892 First telephone exchange opened. It served six subscribers; by 1898 the number had grown to 33.
- 1900 A second railroad (now Santa Fe) reached Antioch.
- 1919 Former Antioch City Hall built this date and demolished in 1981.
- 1926 Antioch Bridge opened; the first of eight highway bridges to be built over Bay Area waterways.
- 1981 John Nejedly Bridge replaced old Antioch bridge.
- 1981 New 3-story City Hall with Council Chambers and Regional Communication Center built (Grand Opening December 5, 1981).

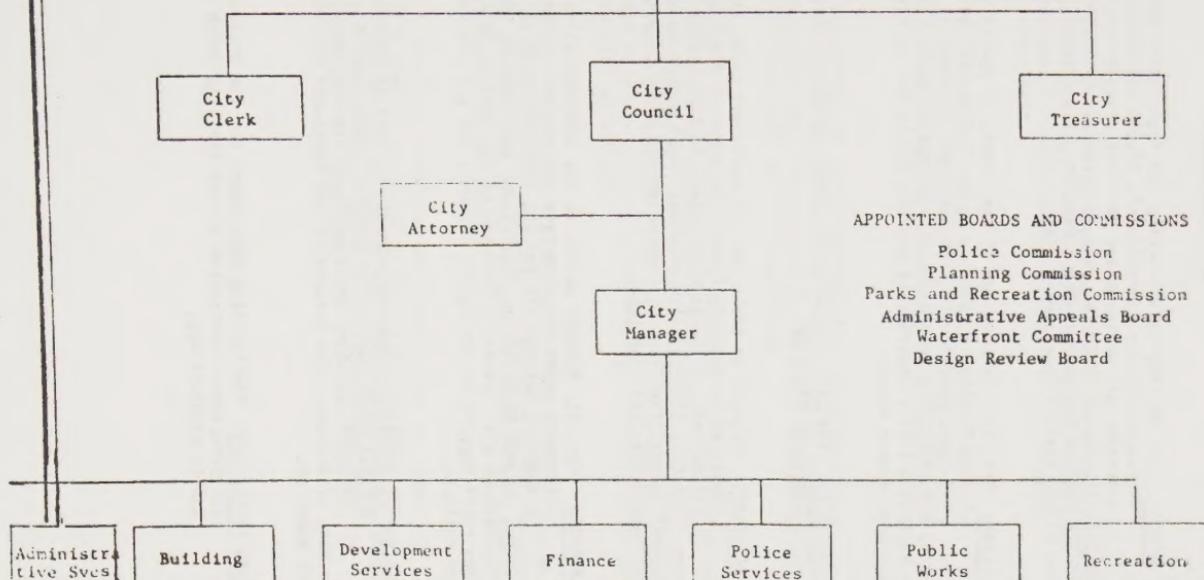
(Information from  
Antioch Historical Society)

POPULATION  
(within City Limits)

1880.	626
1890.	635
1900.	1,124
1910.	1,936
1920.	3,563
1930.	2,563
1940.	5,106
1943.	7,267
1947.	10,016
1950.	11,051
1954.	13,712
1957.	15,507
1958.	16,342
1959.	16,712
1960.	17,305
1961.	17,632
1962.	18,950
1963.	19,800
1964.	20,600
1965.	21,650
1966.	23,050
1967.	23,431
1968.	24,500
1969.	26,000
1970.	28,211
1971.	29,950
1972.	31,150
1973.	32,100
1975.	33,215
1976.	33,500
1977.	34,700
1978.	36,548
1979.	39,050
1980.	42,251
1981.	43,559
1982.	44,098
1983.	45,777
1984.	46,570
1985.	47,233 *

\* State Department of Finance 1-1-85

CITY OF ANTIOCH



See brief description of each department on following page.

## CITY DEPARTMENTS

CITY COUNCIL: As the City policy-making and legislative body, the City Council is responsible to approximately 47,000 residents of Antioch for approving all programs and services provided in the City. The Mayor of the City is elected at large every four years. Each year the Council chooses one of its members to serve as Mayor Pro Tem. The Council also functions as members of the Antioch Development Agency.

CITY CLERK: The City Clerk is one of the oldest of public servants and can be traced to biblical times. As an elected official, the City Clerk has the basic function to serve as Clerk to the City Council and to correctly and officially record all proceedings of Council meetings. The City Clerk assists all City departments and the public and serves as Secretary to the Antioch Development Agency.

CITY TREASURER: The City Treasurer receives, safely maintains and invests all monies of the City.

CITY ATTORNEY: Pursuant to state law and municipal code, the City Attorney is appointed by the City Council to serve as the City's legal advisor on all matters of law as they relate to the conduct of municipal agencies. The City Attorney also provides legal advice to the Antioch Development Agency, the Planning Commission and other City Council appointed boards, commissions and committees.

CITY MANAGER: The City Manager serves as the administrative head of city government under the direction and control of the City Council. The Manager is responsible for the enforcement of all laws and ordinances, subject to pertinent regulations and tends to the needs of the City. The City Manager also serves as Director of the Antioch Development Agency and provides staff support to the Agency members, who are the Council Members of the City of Antioch.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: The Administrative Services Department is organized to deliver basic day-to-day administrative support services to all line and staff operating departments within the organizational structure of the City of Antioch. The Purchasing and Personnel Departments are included in this function.

BUILDING INSPECTION: The Building Department has the responsibility to inspect all structures constructed within the City which are not in the public right-of-way.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES: The Department of Development Services is responsible for overseeing, administering, and implementing the City's planning program, development, regulations, redevelopment and economic development activities.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT: The Finance Department has the responsibility for management of the financial operations of the City, including Administration, Accounting, Water and Sewer Billing and Data Processing.

POLICE SERVICES: The Department of Police Services has been established to provide the residents of Antioch with a comprehensive program of public safety activities. Management of the civil defense operations has been delegated to the Department of Police Services.

PUBLIC WORKS: The Department of Public Works is organized and responsible for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of all the physical structures and facilities that are developed or acquired by the City of Antioch to house governmental functions and provide water treatment, water distribution, waste water collection, storm drainage, transportation and similar services for the City of Antioch.

RECREATION: The Department of Recreation is responsible for providing a wide variety of cultural, social, recreational, educational and leisure-time services and programs to the residents of Antioch including youth, teen, adult, and senior citizen groups.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: The City Boards and Commissions that are formed to advise the City Council on policy issues in various areas of expertise and specialization include the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Design Review Board, Police Commission, Administrative Appeals Board and Waterfront Committee.

CITY DEPARTMENTS

CITY HALL:

<u>First</u> <u>Floor:</u>	City Clerk City Treasurer Finance (water service, dog licenses) Finance (business licenses) Congressman Miller's District Aide	754-8384 778-4528 778-0950 778-0952 778-3777
<u>Second</u> <u>Floor:</u>	Building Department Development Services (Planning/Code Enforcement) Public Works (Engineering)	778-2602 778-3491 778-4520
<u>Third</u> <u>Floor:</u>	City Attorney City Manager Mayor/City Council Personnel	778-3502 788-4531 778-4531 778-3501
<u>Lower</u> <u>Level:</u>	Purchasing Department ECA Federal Credit Union Delta Regional Communications Center (Dispatchers for all police/fire in East County)	778-4530 757-1320 778-2441--business 911--emergency
<u>ANIMAL</u> <u>SHELTER:</u>	Animal Control, Fulton Shipyard Road	757-2278--shelter 757-2284--animal pickup
<u>COMMUNITY</u> <u>CENTER:</u>	Recreation Department, 213 "F" Street Senior Center, Second and "E" Streets Senator Boatwright, Third and "F" Streets	757-0900 754-2231; 778-1158 754-3011
<u>CORPORATION</u> <u>YARD:</u>	Maintenance Departments, 4th and "N" Streets	757-2271
<u>POLICE:</u>	Police Department, 10th and "D" Streets	757-2236--business
<u>WATER</u> <u>FACILITY:</u>	Water Treatment Plant, end of "D" Street	757-2428
<u>CHAMBER OF</u> <u>COMMERCE:</u>	City Hall (separate entrance)	757-1800

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (by appointment)

Planning Commission:	7 members, four-year terms
Administrative Appeals Board	5 members, four-year terms
Parks & Recreation	7 members, four-year terms
Police Commission	5 members, four-year terms
Design Review Board	5 members, four-year terms

Other committees may be appointed by the City Council as deemed necessary.

OTHER AGENCIES

Antioch Unified School District, Admin. Bldg., 510 'G' Street.....	757-7110
BART Bus Information.....	754-BART
Chamber of Commerce, City Hall, Second & 'H' Streets.....	757-1800
Delta-Diablo Sanitation 7-A District, Pittsburg/Antioch Highway.....	778-4040
Delta Municipal Court, 45 Civic Drive, Pittsburg.....	439-4158
Delta Memorial Hospital, 3901 Lone Tree Way.....	757-7110
Department of Motor Vehicles, 1399 Buchanan Road, Pittsburg.....	432-4748
Fairgrounds, Contra Costa County, 10th & 'L' Streets.....	757-4400
Golf Course, Lone Tree Way.....	754-0911 & 757-5200
Kaiser Permanente Clinic, Delta Fair Boulevard.....	757-7680
Library, 501 W. 18th Street.....	757-2100
PG&E, 3001 Delta Fair Boulevard.....	757-2200
Pacific Telephone Repair.....	611
Passport Information, Martinez.....	372-2957
Pleasant Hill Bay Shore Disposal (garbage collection).....	757-3647
Post Office, 420-422 W. 4th Street.....	757-4191
Reach 1915 D Street.....	754-3673
Riverview Fire Protection District, 1500 W. 4th Street (Business).....	757-1303
Viacom Cablevision, 550 Garcia Avenue, Pittsburg.....	432-0500

OTHER INFORMATION

Pursuant to Council action, the following fees have been established by the City Clerk's Department for the following:

Antioch Municipal Code . . .	\$ 25.00
Updated reprints . . . .	\$ 20.00
Agendas for City Council . .	\$ 25.00 each/year
and Planning Commission	
Minutes of City Council . .	\$ 25.00 each/year
and Planning Commission . .	
Voter Transcripts . . . .	\$ 1.75

For fees established in other city departments,  
please contact appropriate department

For a conducted tour of the City Hall facility,  
contact the City Clerk at 754-8384.

YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED  
PERSONS 25 YEARS AND OVER

ETHNIC CHARACTERISTICS

	1980	1970*	Total	All Races	42,883
Elementary	2,640	11%	10%	White (Including Hispanic	38,201 (89%)
High School (1-3 years)	3,363	14%	20%	Black	614 (1%)
High School (4 years)	10,011	42%	41%	American Indian, Eskimo and Aleut	578 (1%)
College (1-3 years)	5,090	22%	11%	Asian and Pacific Islander	1,110 (5%)
College (4+ years)	2,533	11%	2%	Other	2,179 (5%)
TOTAL	23,637			Hispanic (Including white, black, American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, Asian, and Pacific Islander)	5,930 (14%)

Source: 1980 Census

\*A total of 14,547 persons were counted including 11% that had not completed Elementary School. Source: 1980 Census

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR CITY OF ANTIOCH

YEAR	POPULATION	PERCENT CHANGE
4/1/70	28,060	7.9
4/1/71	39,950	6.7
2/1/72	31,150	4.0
1/1/73	32,100	3.0
1/1/74	32,350	1.0
1/1/75	32,950	1.9
1/1/76	33,500	1.7
1/1/77	34,700	3.6
1/1/78	36,648	5.6
1/1/79	39,050	6.6
1/1/80	41,750	6.9
4/1/80	42,583	N/A
1/1/81	43,414	4.0
1/1/82	44,098	1.6
1/1/83	45,677	3.6
1/1/84	46,570	2.0
1/1/85	47,233	1.0

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE POPULATION AND HOUSING UNITS FOR 1-1-84

POPULATION	HOUSING UNITS			
Total	46,570	Total	16,977	Mobilehomes 142
Households	46,324	Single	12,793	Occupied 16,352
Mobilehomes	247	2 to 4	1,572	Percent Vacant 3.68
Group Quarters	246	5 or more	2,470	Population Per Household 2.833

### FACTS OF ANTIOCH

Antioch is a General Law City. The statutes of the State prescribe basic functions and duties of City Clerks in general law cities.

Antioch lies at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers at the gateway to the agriculturally rich San Joaquin Delta. In its early days Antioch served as a trading post for goods moving in and out of San Francisco. Since that time, Antioch has moved through various stages, first as a mining center and later as a manufacturing complex. Today, Antioch is becoming a balanced community offering employment, recreation and a diversity of housing opportunities.

The City is located slightly more than fifty miles east of San Francisco and fifty-five miles southwest of Sacramento. Excellent transportation routes connect Antioch to other cities and driving times to both San Francisco and Sacramento are approximately one hour.

The climate is mild with annual temperatures ranging between a high of 95° and a low of 35°. Humidity levels are generally low and the City's riverfront location often provides cooling breezes. Annual rainfall is just over 12.5 inches, the majority of which falls between October and May. In all, the climate is a most pleasant and desirable feature of this Bay Area community.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Statistics

Present population . . . . .	47,233	certified 1/1/85
Number of Antioch Registered Voters . . . . .	23,729	certified 2/22/85
Square Miles of Corporate Area (present) . . . . .	14	as of 3/85
Centennial Flower . . . . .		Antioch primrose (located in Antioch Sand Dunes)



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